



TWO ODD TOURISTS.

Independent Young Ladies Who Pay Expenses En Route.

The American girl is expected to do unusual things. There is therefore more admiration than surprise excited by the feats accomplished by two bright young ladies now stopping in San Francisco. Both are from New York. One, Miss Mabel Biggart, is a journalist, author and electionist. The other, Miss Louise Gunner, has a finely trained contralto voice.

Seven years ago they decided to do the United States. With the exception of California, this has been accomplished. They have besides traveled all over Canada. Yet their journeys have been made only on the capital of their talents and at no time have they been forced to call upon their people for assistance.

They are the outcome of years of patient hybridizing. Only violets of one gender grow on a plant. This renders them capable of being experimented with successfully. The big, bold double violet is the male flower.

The demure single blossom is the female. From the double flower the pollen is carefully cut and placed in the cup of the single blossom. Only one blossom in 100 of these artificially treated will produce seed. This seed is then planted, and the resultant violet is again hybridized with some other remarkable specimen.

Sometimes odd colors are obtained. Sometimes odd form. A year ago a local nurseryman produced a violet giant. It was four times larger than the ordinary flower and grew on a stem from 12 to 16 inches long. The plant on which these remarkable blossoms grew sprang up from one of the seeds resulting from a long series of hybridizing. It was subdivided, and now there are 32 plants.

These were purchased a few days ago by a city florist for \$2,000. An iron bound contract prevents the propagator from giving away, selling or keeping a single rootlet. A nursery will be started in a neighboring country to be devoted to multiplying the peculiar plant. None of the plants or blossoms will be sold for two years, by which time the 32 roots will have grown to four or five millions. The violet has been named the Thiburcian porto, after the well known capitalist—San Francisco Chronicle.

Transformation of Japan.

Their railways, of which 1,750 miles are now open, are well constructed and well regulated, and the first homemade locomotive was built in Japan last January. The post and telegraph system leaves nothing to be desired. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha (Japanese Steamship company), which owns 47 ships running to Chinese and other ports and carries a large trade, now intends to enlarge its operations by starting a fast clipper line for passengers and cargo to Sydney and Melbourne. As the present service is excellent and the accommodation good, there is every reason to anticipate success for this new development. Coal mines are being rapidly opened up, and the production of iron steadily increasing. The manufacture of cotton fabrics is sixfold what it was eight years ago, and cheap labor enables Japan to be a formidable competitor with England in the markets of the east.—Countess of Jersey in United Service Magazine.

Boston's Belts.

Miss Charlotte W. Hawes, the musical composer, is making an effort to have the noted bells of Boston put in order and rung in the interest of the musical education of the people. The chimes of bells in the tower of Christ church, Salem street, is a fine one and was presented to the church by the citizens of London in 1744. These bells were formerly rung in the old English fashion, and when General Lafayette visited Boston in 1824 the city had the bells put in order, and they rang out a royal musical welcome to the noted Frenchman. They were rung by eight old bellringers for some years after this event; then the old method was abandoned, and the plan of one man ringing the tune over was adopted. Miss Hawes has undertaken the revival of the old English fashion of bell ringing, such as prevails in London. Miss Hawes is assisted in her patriotic work by many leading residents of Boston.—Boston Advertiser.

She Got a Pass.

Mayor Joe Hinckley of Covington the other evening related to his friends an amusing adventure of the day before. A colored woman, burdened with a lusty, squalling baby, called at his office.

"Am I to see my mayor?" she wanted to know.

"It am," responded the chief executive. "Don just you sit down and write me a pass to Frutie Ky," she ordered, without any palpable waste of words.

His honor explained that this was not one of his prerogatives and that her request would have to be laid before the chairman of the council relief committee.

"It does, eh?" asked madam. "I've got to catch dat o'clock train. Gimme dat pass, or I leave dis baby!" She made a motion to drop the pickaninny into Mr. Hinckley's lap. That settled the argument. She got the pass.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

Straining After Style.

The Vienna correspondent of a London journal, writing about the bold that fashion has on the women of the Austrian capital, says: "It may be confidently asserted that every Vienna woman and girl dresses in a station above her lot in life. This year not a maid-servant wears a last year's jacket. It is impossible to say where the hundreds of thousands of jackets that were worn last year have gone to. On Sunday and even on week days we see even the humblest women in jackets whose sleeves stand out like the ears of some huge elephant."

Horrible.

Mr. Emerson of Boston—I am deeply in-



NEW STYLES IN CLOTHES.

The walking costume on the left is of beige and gray cloth. The upper portion is draped and bound with marlboro. The waist is seamless, fastening under the arms. The overskirt joins the corsage under the band of lace. It is plaited very full in the back. The home gown in the center is of old rose and indigo blue embroidery, with brocade lace at the bottom. It is cut in a princess both front and back. The morning toilet on the right is of sheer lace, with casses green facings and sleeves. It is draped quite high in jabot folds.



Castleton—I am seriously thinking of giving our west to live with the cowboys.

Miss Penstock—But you might get shot. They say the cowboys are an awfully dangerous set.

Castleton—Not if one behaves him self. There is no danger unless a man makes an ass of himself.

Mrs. Penstock (appealingly)—Oh, don't Truth.

An Optical Illusion.

Twilight was falling. Herbert McSquarz stepped into the porch. Marguerite Tubbs was there to greet him, but he seemed not to realize her presence. It was soon evident that he was doing it on purpose.

"Oh, speak to me!" she cried.

"No," he answered resolutely, "I shall not. From this time forth you shall have me keeping silent."

"Oh, horrors! What have I done to deserve that?"

"What have you not done?" he asked scowling. "Many things."

"I cannot believe it. Yet you trusted me."

"I did, but now there is perfidy on your face."

"No, not Whidbey else I may have done, I have never tried that or anything else. My complexion is my own."

He laughed merrily, so merrily that she held him and landed him a cough deep.

"It is well that I discovered this before our marriage," he muttered with clinched teeth.

"Discovered what?" she asked with visible consternation, for she was easily moved, was Margaretta Tubbs—so easily moved that she had long since ceased to trust herself to roller skates. After a minute's emotion she repeated the question in another form:

"What have you discovered?"

"That you receive the attentions of another man."

"It's false."

"I know you driving with him last Wednesday night."

"You—say—me—last—Wednesday—night?" she faltered. "And this is why you refuse to speak to me?"

"It was my name you saw."

"Go—go—go."

"I will not," she cried indignantly. "Not you have heard me through. You have blundered upon our family's secret. My what is—"

"Well?"

"A bearded lady."

She hung her head and blushed deeply.

She was blushing because of the painful disclosure she had just made, or because he was showering rapturous kisses on the back of her neck?—The Bits.

An Honest One.

A very ragged tramp applied one day recently in a house on Howard street for old clothes, and the charitable woman living there fitted him out in full attire to foot, and he went away in a cheerful mood. Next day he came back, quite as ragged as at first except as to his coat, carrying the clothes the lady had given him.

"Well," she asked in astonishment as he presented himself and his bundle, "what's the matter?"

"We brought back the clothes, lady," he said in a tone of triumph.

"Why did you do that? Don't you need them in the cold weather?"

He laid them down on a chair determinedly. "No, lady," he replied. "I can't say as I do. You see, lady, I've been used to wearin' ventilated shoes and hats and clo's so long that when I tried those you give me I felt so kinder smothered I had to git back in the old ones, and bo'm honest, ef I am poor, I thought I'd bring 'em back, 'cause you ain't been in the perchest quite as long as me." And with a bow and thanks and a warm pie, he struck manfully out into the cold morning.—Detroit Free Press.

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TOPEKA STATE

JOURNAL

DANCING CLASSES.

Mr. C. D. Hudson's dancing class for children will open Saturday, October 14th, at 3 p.m., at Hudson Hall. Advanced class for adults every Monday evening. Beginners' class commencing Tuesday Evening, Nov. 26th.

DANCING

M. J. H. Webber's Academy of

Dancing, at 602 Jackson Street,

Denison Building, will open Monday

evening, Oct. 2. For terms, address

Academy, Hall for rent for par

ticles of balls.

The English Black Friday was May 11, 1866, the height of the commercial panic of that year. The American Black Friday was Sept. 24, 1868, when a group of speculators in New York suddenly advanced the price of gold and produced a disastrous panic.

In 1869 the British courts decided that a peer could not make a bankrupt. The decision was appealed, in the case of the Duke of Newcastle, to the house of lords, which affirmed it. In 1871 it was decided that a bankrupt could not sit in the house of lords.

The British securities, at first called Exchequer bills, were invented by Montague, afterward earl of Halifax, and first issued in 1697. They were really the government's accommodation notes, issued in anticipation of taxes and being receivable for taxes.

When the Bank of the United States wound up its affairs in 1811, the stockholders received all their money and a premium of 5% per cent. When the second Bank of the United States suspended, in 1840, the stockholders got nothing, the entire capital having been lost.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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